

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 were originally filed in the present application.

Claims 1-20 were pending in the present application.

Claims 1-20 were rejected in the May 14, 2007 Office Action.

No claims have been allowed.

Claims 1-20 remain in the present application.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

In the May 14, 2007 Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,292,838 to *Nelson* (the “Nelson reference”) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0039357 to *Lipasti, et al.* (the “Lipasti reference”). Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse the Examiner’s arguments in support of the rejection.

Claim 1 of the present application requires:

For use in a mobile ad hoc network formed by a plurality of mobile ad hoc network (MANET) nodes, a first MANET node capable of routing data packets, said first MANET node comprising:

a radio frequency (RF) transceiver capable of wirelessly communicating with other ones of said plurality of MANET nodes; and

a controller capable of receiving incoming data packets from said RF transceiver and sending outgoing data packets to said RF transceiver,

wherein said controller is further capable of receiving a first data packet associated with at least one of: the incoming data packet and the outgoing data packet, determining a first medium access control (MAC) layer address associated with said first data packet, and adding said first MAC layer address to said first data packet. (emphasis added).

Notably, Claim 1 requires that *the first MANET node have an RF transceiver capable of wirelessly communicating with other ones of said plurality of MANET nodes*. Claim 1 also requires

that the controller is capable of *receiving incoming data packets from said RF transceiver and sending outgoing data packets to said RF transceiver*. In addition, Claim 1 requires *receiving a first data packet associated with at least one of: the incoming data packet and the outgoing data packet, determining a first medium access control (MAC) layer address associated with said first data packet, and adding said first MAC layer address to said first data packet*.

First, the Examiner concedes that the Nelson reference fails to teach, disclose or suggest *any wireless communications, let alone a mobile ad hoc network (MANET)*. Applicants agree and therefore, the Nelson reference fails to teach or disclose at least, for example: (1) *a first MANET node* capable of routing data packets; (2) *a first MANET node* comprising a radio frequency (RF) transceiver capable of wirelessly communicating with other ones of said plurality of MANET nodes; and (3) *a controller capable of receiving incoming data packets from said RF transceiver and sending outgoing data packets to said RF transceiver*, as required by Claim 1.

Second, the Examiner goes on to cite the Lipasti reference merely for teaching wireless communications and in particular for teaching MANETs. In support of the rejection, the Examiner cites to a single paragraph within the Lipasti reference which reads (in its entirety):

[0022] In the following description the telecommunications network is assumed to be a Bluetooth network, yet without limiting the invention to such a particular network. *The invention may be used in any kind of mobile ad hoc network* such as a network according to the IEEE 802.11 WLAN (Wireless Local Area Network), HomeRF or BRAN (Broadband Radio Access Networks) specifications (HIPERLAN1, 2, HIPERACCESS). Lipasti reference, p. 2, paragraph [0022]. (emphasis added).

Accordingly, paragraph [0022] of the Lipasti reference merely suggests that *its* invention (i.e., the Lipasti invention) could be used in any kind of mobile ad hoc network. Paragraph [0022] makes no suggestion that the Lipasti reference could be combined in any way with the Nelson reference or

with any of its teachings. In other words, at the very most, the Lipasti reference merely suggests that *its* system of routing packets in a mobile ad hoc network (by adding routing information extensions (23) to packets describing the path to the destination L2.5 address, where the L2.5 address is a 64-bit broadcast address) could be used in any wireless communication system or MANET. Lipasti reference, pages 4 & 5, paragraph [0087]. Applicants respectfully fail to see any connection with the teachings of the Nelson reference as the Examiner appears to suggest.

Accordingly, the Nelson reference, either alone or in any combination with the Lipasti reference, fails to teach or disclose, for example, *a controller capable of receiving incoming data packets from said RF transceiver and sending outgoing data packets to said RF transceiver*, as required by Claim 1 and its dependents, Claims 2-10. The Nelson reference, either alone or in any combination with the Lipasti reference also fails to teach or disclose, a controller that is further capable of receiving a first data packet associated with at least one of: the incoming data packet and the outgoing data packet, *determining a first medium access control (MAC) layer address associated with said first data packet, and adding said first MAC layer address to said first data packet*, as also required by Claim 1 and its dependents, Claims 2-10. Similar arguments hold true for Claim 11 and its dependents, Claims 12-20.

Moreover, contrary to the Examiner's suggestions, there is no motivation or suggestion within the Nelson reference or the Lipasti reference to prompt one of ordinary skill to selectively combine discrete elements from each and then *seek out* still others as required by Claim 1 and its

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dependents, Claims 2-10. Similar arguments hold true for Claim 11 and its dependents, Claims 12-20.

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and the withdrawal of the §103 rejection.

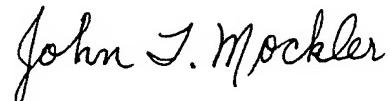
SUMMARY

For the reasons given above, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims and that this application be passed to issue. If any outstanding issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of this application, the Applicants respectfully invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at *jmockler@munckbutrus.com*.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

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